

part of the city, he was not aware of the existence of the portico described, which had not been mentioned to him by Mr. Hamilton, till subsequent to his visit.*

An account of the remains of the ancient city of Agrigentum was read by Mr. Angell, who said, that amongst the ruins of Magna Græcia, none were of greater interest than those he was about to describe. They had not the awful solitude of Selinus and Pæstum, but occupied a most picturesque site near the modern city of Girgenti. Their architectural character would afford much matter for examination. To any one who might visit them, the Capuchin convent in the neighbourhood would afford comfortable lodging, and occasionally no bad cheer. Amongst the remains were those of several temples of the Doric order. The Temple of Juno Lucina was hexastyle, peripteral, and formerly contained the celebrated picture of Juno by Zeuxis. There were some remains of the peribolus. The Temple of Concord was similar in plan to the Temple of Juno. Of the Temple of Esculapius, the only remains were a part of the cells, and fragments of the staircases to the roof; but it had been ascertained, that it was a temple in *antis*. The Temple of Hercules was the largest after the Temple of Jupiter Olympius; one column was standing, but a restoration had been published by the Duke of Serradifalco, who had found traces of polychromy. The Temple of Jupiter Olympius was the second in magnitude, of all the temples of ancient Greece; it was never completed, not having had a roof. The Greeks had two modes of arrangement in the plans of temples; one was that of the *naos*, with columns in *antis*, or portico at the end, and the other, where the *naos* was surrounded by columns. The temple under notice partook of both modes; the columns being, as it were, built into the wall, appearing circular without, and square within. The structure was of vast size, each flute of the columns being, as described by Diodorus, wide enough for a man to stand in, or two feet at the lower diameter. Mr. Cockerell's restoration, in the fifth volume of Stuart's "Athens," has seven columns in the front, the telamones, or Persians, being placed within the *naos* for the support of the roof. These figures were twenty-five feet in height, and represented the giants conquered by Jupiter; in style of art they resemble the Eginetan sculpture, though the pediments were enriched with work of a better description. Sig. Raffaele Politi, corresponding member of the Institute, had made a restoration entirely different to the one described, though he now admitted the greater probability of Mr. Cockerell's. The restoration was not, however, entirely unwarranted, as fragments of but three telamones had been found, and there was a passage in an old author, describing a building with three giants forming the portico; which figures had been inserted in the arms of the modern city. As the figures remain in the arms, Sig. Politi considered he had sufficient authority for considering the temple, originally built with a Persian portico. Besides the above, there are remains of the temples of Castor and Pollux, of Vulcan, and in the modern city, which was anciently the Acropolis, of the Temple of Jupiter Polynenus. There was also a Temple of Ceres and Proserpina, and, in the modern cathedral, a sarcophagus, enriched with sculpture. Other remains in the city were those of

the oratory of Phalarides, and of the tomb of Theron. The latter was one of those singular monuments, which the Agrigentines were in the habit of raising to their horses, and was the only one not destroyed by Hannibal. That general, finding that the monuments round the walls gave shelter to the besieged in their sallies, ordered them all to be cleared away; but a flash of lightning deterred the soldiers from completing their work. The monument is a singular edifice; it has Ionic columns, but a Doric entablature, and stands upon a lofty basement. In the intercolumns are recesses or doorways, diminished upwards. The piscina was a large basin, nearly a mile in circumference; it was used for the supply of the city with fish, and afterwards for bathing. Mr. Angell concluded his account with some interesting remarks on the former state of the city, and, quoting the words of Pericles, said that "the Agrigentines built like men who expected to live for ever, and lived as if they expected to die to-morrow."

Mr. Donaldson drew attention to the fact, that in Great Britain we were reproached for our restricted pursuit of wealth, and for our assumed inability to execute great works of art, whilst the people of Agrigentum, with a small territory, as well as all the cities of ancient Greece, depended solely upon commerce, and yet had produced works of unequal magnitude and beauty. He also made some interesting remarks upon the "heptastyle" arrangement of the columns, and said that there were other examples at Pæstum, and probably in the Temple of Hercules at Pompeii, and observed, that the Greeks often set at nought many of the rules, which we are accustomed to observe, when they thought, that in so doing, other advantages might be gained. In large temples, if there had been a centre intercolumn, there would have been a doorway, but in this case they preferred to put a column in the middle, and place a door on each side. The Duke of Serradifalco said, that he considered this was not the principal entrance, and shewed, from his work, that he had given six columns and a central doorway in the other front. Mr. Donaldson exhorted the members to greater activity in contributing to the interest of the meetings; and after thanks to the chairman, the meetings were adjourned to November next.

THE HEIGHT OF CHIMNEY SHAFTS.

AWARD UNDER THE BUILDING ACT.

It is necessary builders should bear in mind that in schedule F. it is declared, that any chimney-shaft (except that of a steam-engine, brewery, distillery, or manufactory,—subject to special supervision) must not be built higher than 8 feet above the slope, flat, or gutter of the roof which it adjoins, measured from the highest point of junction, unless such chimney-shaft be built of increased thickness, or be built with and bonded to another chimney-shaft, or be otherwise rendered secure.

Messrs. Grisell and Peto recently carried up the chimney-shafts of three houses in Greyhound-place, Grange-road, to a height of 12 feet 7 inches above the adjoining building, without what the district surveyor (Mr. Hesketh) thought the necessary additional precautions.

The matter was sent to the referees, and the award was, that the chimney-shafts were contrary to the Act, and that the same must be made conformable thereto. The expenses of the award and 2l. 2s. for the district surveyor's time were charged to the builders.

EFFECT OF NEW RAILWAYS ON THE PRICE OF COALS IN LONDON.—Mr. Mahon, in giving his evidence before the committee on the Cambridge and Lincoln line of railway, stated that he had had the management of coal-mines in Derbyshire for twenty years past; that the coal-fields of Clay Cross, Wingerfield, and Staley, were capable of unlimited supply, and he believed that the Clay Cross and Staley coals were quite equal to the Durham. By the proposed new lines of railway these coals could be delivered in London at 14s. 10d. per ton; Erewash coals as low as 10s. 6d.; while the Wingerworth, which were not so good in quality, could not be delivered in London under 14s. 6d. per ton.

HOWDEN CHURCH, YORKSHIRE.

YORKSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

THE quarterly meeting of this society was held in its rooms, Minster-yard, York, on Thursday, July 17th, the Venerable Archdeacon Wilberforce in the chair.

After the election of several new members, the presentation of works of archaeological and architectural interest, and other business connected with the society, the following report of the restorations going on in the parish church, Howden, Yorkshire, was read:—

"Howden, July 16th, 1845.

To the Secretaries and Committee of the Yorkshire Architectural Society.

GENTLEMEN,—We beg leave to lay before you an account of the progress of the work of restoration of the parish church of Howden, towards which your society liberally granted us the sum of 40l.

1. As to the tower, the upper story has had all its lowering (lately composed of wood) restored. The wood has been removed, and blue slate, of the best and strongest quality, introduced in its stead. The second story has been partially reglazed. The stone work has been completely repaired, and the glazing done in a most substantial and workmanlike manner. The architect superintending the work has expressed his entire satisfaction in this department of the restoration. The work now effected only shews more fully the necessity of opening and glazing the whole of the windows in this story, which can only be effected at an additional cost of 60l. A floor which originally divided these windows in half has been removed, and the effect is truly imposing.

2. The east window is now in the course of insertion over the screen, which originally separated the choir from the transepts; the stained glass to fill it has been contracted for, and is in the course of execution by Mr. Wailes, of Newcastle, and in a short time this department of the work will be complete.

The screens to separate the new chancel from the transepts are of carved oak, and will be ready for fixing as soon as the masonry is perfect. When this is done, the new church will be thrown open to the nave; the pulpit removed from the centre aisle to the first pier of the nave, on the south, and the reading pew to the south pier of the church arch.

Other restorations have been effected, which, in the opinion of our architects, Messrs. Weightman and Hadfield, add much to the beauty and character of our church.

Having completed these restorations at a cost of 400l., in addition to what your society so liberally granted, we hope there will be no hesitation in allowing the payment of 40l. to be now made to us on behalf of the object for which that sum was specially granted.

Whilst we feel deeply indebted to the Yorkshire Architectural Society for its past liberality, we trust we shall not be thought too encroaching if we ask a further donation to help us in carrying out to perfection the whole of the masonry and glazing of the tower, we pledging ourselves to make up the remaining money, and complete the work to the satisfaction of the society.—We beg leave to remain, your obedient and faithful servants,

T. GUY, Vicar.

W. SUGDEN, Churchwarden."

After the reading of this report, one of the secretaries of the society, who had previously visited Howden, made his official statement, which was as follows:—

"Howden, July 16, 1845.

To the Committee of the Yorkshire Architectural Society.

GENTLEMEN,—I have this day visited Howden, in order to inspect and report upon the restorations now going on in its parish church. I have carefully examined every part, and can most conscientiously state that the work so far accomplished has been of the most satisfactory kind. The zeal and skill displayed by the vicar, churchwarden, and architects are beyond any praise of mine; and whilst the Yorkshire Architectural Society cannot but feel gratified in having been the means of encouraging such a restoration by a liberal grant of 40l., it will do well to meet any future appeal for further help by such assistance as may be in its power. In a few words, the work is most creditable to all parties concerned, and has excited in the

* We may here mention, that letters, which we have received from a correspondent in Syria, quite corroborate the statement, as to the existence of many architectural fragments, yet undescribed. They are built into the walls of cottages, or hollowed into water-troughs, and the carved frieze, on which the hand of genius revelled in ornament, is often turned into a receptacle for filth and ordure.

"Imperial Caesar, dead, and turn'd to clay,
Might stop a hole, to keep the wind away;
O, that that earth, which kept the world in awe,
Should patch a wall to expel the winter's flaw!"

In a letter from Jerusalem, the writer says, "I am sending some antiquities found in digging foundations here; they are of the Doric order; the echinus is quite straight, and not curved in under the abacus, as we find it in the best Grecian examples; there are two of these; the others are the base and capital of a small column; the capital is, I think, good. Jerusalem is not the place for an architect, or an architectural antiquary; there are few ruins, and the whole of the city is buried in filth to an immense depth. At Acre, I found cornices, capitals, and other fragments, indicating something of interest there at a previous period. The fragment of a cornice was enriched with oves, and with the leaf ornament of the reversed cyma; it was in white marble, and fixed to mark the last resting-place of a Turk. There was also a capital of no decided character. I saw a good specimen of a Corinthian capital at Tyre, it was of white marble, hollowed out for the purpose of holding refuse water. I shall have much to tell you of other antiquities in Syria."